



From the Office of Indiana Attorney General
Steve Carter

Release: Immediate
July 26, 2005

Clock is Ticking on Public Comment Period for Do Not Call

July 29 deadline fast approaching

Indianapolis – Indiana Attorney General Steve Carter is alerting Hoosiers that the deadline to let the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) know how they feel about efforts to weaken the state's Do Not Call law is fast approaching. The FCC has set a **Friday, July 29, 2005** deadline to accept public comment on two petitions filed seeking to have states adhere to a less restrictive national standard for unwanted sales calls.

"Up to this point the FCC has heard from thousands of Hoosiers who have expressed concerns about Indiana's Do Not Call law being changed," said Indiana Attorney General Steve Carter. "While this number is encouraging, we want to raise awareness among the more than 3.6 million people benefiting from the law that time is running out for them to speak out against possible changes that would increase telemarketing calls."

The Consumer Bankers Association (CBA) is one of the petitioners asking the FCC to permit more unwanted telemarketing calls to by allowing businesses to contact previous customers even though they may be registered on the state's Do Not Call list limiting such sales calls. If successful, registrants could receive millions more unwanted calls over a year and a half time period.

In a second petition, thirty two groups have asked the FCC to declare that states can only regulate intrastate telemarketing -- calls that originate in Indiana. Such a declaration would allow telemarketers to avoid Indiana's Do Not Call law merely by calling from outside the state.

Comments can be made electronically at http://gulfoss2.fcc.gov/prod/ecfs/upload_v2.cgi. The document number to enter is **02-278**. There are instructions and links to make a comment also on the SaveDoNotCall.com website.

"We want every person who benefits from this law to realize their privacy rights are being threatened and the clock is ticking on their opportunity to voice their opinion," Carter added.

Consumers can also find more information about the banks and the groups who have signed on to the petitions at www.SaveDoNotCall.com. Links and other contact information about the Save Do Not Call effort are provided on the website.

- 30 -

Reporters' contact: Staci Schneider 317/232-6351